E-Governance Scheme for development of Core infrastructure entitled "State Wide area Network" (SWAN) covering 6000 Blocks, Tahsils and District Hqrs. was approved by the Government in March, 2005 with an estimated outlay of Rs.3334 crore for the entire country out of which estimated expenditure of Rs.2005 crore would be provided as Grant-in-Aid, for be expended over 5 years. Under the Scheme, Project proposals for Uttar Pradesh were sanctioned to the extent of Rs.168.72 crores.

(d) Internet access through Internet Dhabas and through Community Information Centres etc. in the country will make it affordable to the common man.

Setting up of Bio-IT Park

1354. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering a proposal to set up a world class Bio-IT Park Project in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Hyderabad has been considered as one of the possible locations for setting up the Park;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR.SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) to (c) The Department of Information Technology (DIT) and the Department of Biotechnology (OBT), have designed a public-private partnership project for Bio-It Park. The selected private promoter has to choose and ideal location for the Bio-It Park from a short list of six locations *viz.* National Capital region (NCR), Kolkata, Pune, Hyderabad, Bangalore and Chennai.

(e) Does not arise.